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BEARD, MARY RITTER. *Woman's Work in Municipalities*. Pp. xi, 344. Price, \$1.50. New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1915.

In her *Woman's Work in Municipalities*, Mary Ritter Beard has given us a comprehensive survey of the field. Her purpose, as outlined in the preface, is a fourfold one—to give some adequate idea of the kind and number of women's activities in cities and towns, and of the spirit in which they have undertaken their work; to show to women whose interests incline toward civic duty the interrelation of each particular effort with the big social problems; and to discuss the general tendencies of modern social work. The various chapters discuss in turn education, public health, the social evil, recreation, the assimilation of races, housing, social service, corrections, public safety, civic improvement, government and administration, describing in each case the extent and kind of women's work, and giving in every case concrete instances and examples. The study shows an immense amount of careful research, and the collection of a large quantity of material that has been very well arranged. In other words, the first two purposes of the author are more than satisfactorily carried out. The very completeness of the success in these two particulars, however, renders the drawing of general conclusion as to relations of kinds of work to each other, and the discussion of general tendencies in social work, exceedingly difficult.

The style of the book is easy and, except for the slight monotony of recounting so many similar details, the interest is well maintained throughout. The book will undoubtedly prove a great addition to the literature not only of the "woman question," but of civic and social activity.

NELLIE SEEDS NEARING.

Toledo, Ohio.

BULLOCK, EDNA D. (Compiled by). *Short Ballot*. Pp. xviii, 160. Price, \$1.00. White Plains, N. Y.: The H. W. Wilson Company, 1915.

CROSBY, JOHN S. *The Orthocratic State*. Pp. 166. Price, \$1.00. New York: Sturgis and Walton Company, 1915.

This book accepts as its fundamental thesis that there are "natural human rights" consisting in "the essential relations of man to the earth and to his fellow men" and which "have their sanction in the universal instinct of self-preservation" (p. 34). Upon these human rights the science of government must be built. With this proposition as a basis the author decides that the functions of the government should include the taxation of land and land only as a source of revenue. One of the fundamental human rights is the right of man to "enjoy whatever nature has provided for the support of happiness or life." There can be no such enjoyment unless the unequal rights of men due to land ownership be equalized through land taxation. The maintenance of protective tariffs is "no function of government" because "they are not essential to peace but rather tend to disturb it" and because "they protect no man from the aggression of another but infringe upon the right of all men to a natural market." As one of the fundamental human rights is the right of persons to determine questions of their own locality, it is "an abuse of civil power for the state to require questions of merely local concern . . . to be submitted for determination to persons